

JCS review  
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DIA, DOS reviews completed

**GENERAL**

1. Troop withdrawal from Austria held undesirable now-- The Department of State has advised US Embassy London of the view of the Joint Chiefs of Staff that a treaty involving troop withdrawal from Austria is undesirable from a military point of view in the light of the newest Soviet action in Europe. The Department has authorized the US treaty representative to seek compromise solutions on oil, Danubian shipping, and arbitration of future disputes.

**EUROPE**

2. NORWAY: Foreign Office believes USSR may propose pact-- According to US Embassy Oslo, the Secretary General of the Norwegian Foreign Office has declared that although Norway has not received any Soviet treaty proposal, such an offer is "not impossible." The Secretary General believes that Norway would refuse such a proposal, but he expresses the fear that unless his Government has some arrangements with the West prior to the proposal of a Soviet treaty, left-wing elements might force Norway to declare that it wishes to avoid commitments with any bloc.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that Norway would reject any Soviet offer for a political-military pact and that such a proposal by the USSR would probably encourage the Government to conform to the already expressed desire of the Norwegian people for closer ties with the western powers.)

3. FRANCE: Communist disorders predicted for mid-March-- The US Consulate in Marseilles has been informed by a previously reliable source that the Communists will probably initiate nation-wide demonstrations and strikes about 12 March. The Consulate's informant added that the Communists will try to exploit any "soft spots" thus discovered in order to create a maximum disruption of French economic life, accompanying their endeavor with acts of criminal sabotage. A high-ranking Gaullist official, now in Marseilles, has informed the Consulate

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- 1 -

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that if trouble starts, troops and police will concentrate their forces only at strategic points and that some isolated towns may thus fall to the Communists.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that the French Communists will not begin strikes and disorders on a national scale in mid-March. Although the Communists will continue to exploit local grievances anywhere in France, they are not likely to provoke nationwide strikes of an insurrectionary nature before the 18 April Italian elections.)

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4. SWITZERLAND: Swiss-French military conversations--

[redacted] General Revers, French Chief of Staff, has held a discussion with the Swiss Chief of Staff concerning the possibilities of military collaboration between France and Switzerland, and that the Swiss officer declared that the Swiss could put 500,000 trained men into the field immediately.

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[redacted] the Belgian Chief of Staff is coming to Paris soon to discuss military matters with General Revers.

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(CIA Comment: Swiss military collaboration with western Europe is much more likely now than in the past. However, Switzerland would probably limit its military commitments to the employment of Swiss troops only if Switzerland were attacked, thus preserving Switzerland's traditional neutrality as long as possible.)

5. FINLAND: Soviets accuse Finns of seeking US-UK support--  
According to US Minister Warren, the Soviet Minister in Helsinki is maintaining pressure on the Finnish Government by accusing the Finns of attempting "to establish contact with Anglo-Saxons for purposes unfriendly to the Soviets."

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- 2 -  
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